



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter

Virginia Society

Sons of the American Revolution



By signing the Declaration of Independence, the fifty-six Americans pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. Nine died of wounds during the Revolutionary War, five were captured or imprisoned. Wives and children were jailed, mistreated, or left penniless. Twelve signer's houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.

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May 2012

President's Message

Compatriots,

We were very pleased to have Navy Captain (Ret) Bill Riffer as our speaker at our April 14 chapter luncheon meeting. He was a career nuclear submariner and was the commander of the attack submarine USS Boston.

He shared many of his interesting as well as humorous experiences as a submarine commander. He dispelled the movie depiction of subs roaming around the oceans with their sonars pinging all the time. Captain Riffer noted that doing so would give away the subs position, not a good thing, so they navigated silently and strictly by charts.



(L-R) Ed Truslow and Captain Riffer

I'm not sure that this has ever happened before but we inducted five new members into the chapter at our meeting.

Pictured below are our five newly inducted members with President Ed Truslow



(L-R) Jim Brown, John Moseley, Stan Florer, Scott Wagner, George Bridewell and Ed

Pictured below are the new members being welcomed into the chapter by President Ed Truslow



(L-R) George Bridewell and Ed



(L-R) Scott Wagner and Ed



(L-R) Jim Brown and Ed



(L-R) Stan Florer and Ed



(L-R) John Moseley and Ed

Best regards,
Ed

May 28th Memorial Day Ceremonies & Chapter Luncheon

As we have done in the past, the Williamsburg Chapter will join in the Colonial Williamsburg Memorial Day commemoration on May 28th. We will assemble at the front of the Governor's Palace no later than 9:15 AM. Following brief opening remarks and wreath laying ceremony there, the march will begin with our chapter color guard following the Colonial Williamsburg Fife and Drums Corps, and then our dignitaries and wreath bearers, and the remaining participants.

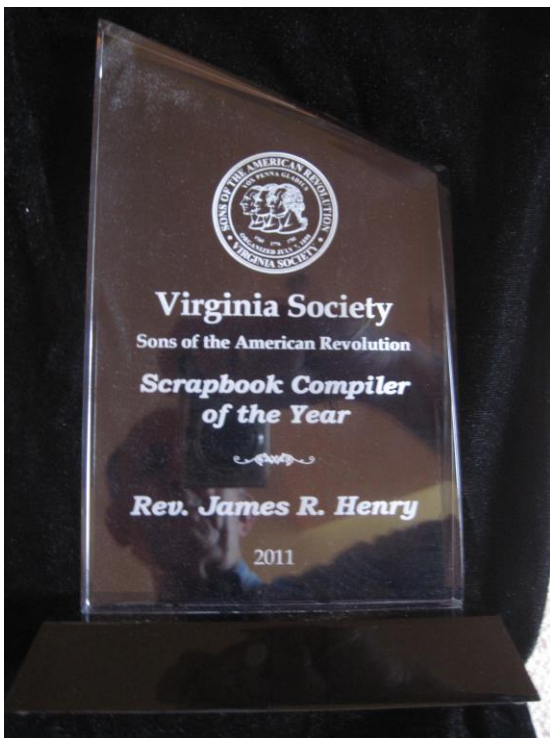
The procession will then march to the Palace Green Gate of Bruton Parish Church for a brief wreath laying ceremony and then continue to the French cemetery near the Williamsburg Inn for a wreath laying for our Revolutionary War allies..

At the conclusion of the ceremonies we will meet in the garden at **King's Arms Tavern** for an individual-pay luncheon.

Attendance at the luncheon must be limited to the first 29 responding so please e-mail or call your reservation to Joe Spruill, josephspruill31@gmail.com, or telephone 757-253-7859.

We hope all members will join us. There will be a shuttle from the colonial Williamsburg employees' parking lot opposite the Colonial Capitol to the turnaround in front of Matthew Whaley School for the color guard and those having difficulty walking. *More detail will be provided at a later date.*

Jim Henry's VASSAR Award for Scrapbook Compiler of the Year for 2011



2012 Chapter Calendar

May 28th – Memorial Day Ceremony with CW – Lunch at the King's Arms
June 16– Joint Mtg. - Time/Place TBD
June 26th – Battle of Spencer's Ordinary
July 4th – Service at Bruton Parish Church

July 6th – Battle of Green Spring
September 8th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
October 13th - Chapter Luncheon Meeting
October 19th – Yorktown Day
November 11th – Palace Cemetery
December – No Meeting

VASSAR Sponsored Activities

April 28 – **President James Monroe's Birthday** – Westmoreland Co. 10:30am, Richmond 3:00pm

May 12-14 **Raid on Martin's Station** – Ewing, VA

June 17 – **Battle of Ramsour's Mill** – Lincolnton, NC

July 7-12 122nd Annual Congress – Phoenix, AZ

August 11-12 Atlantic Middle States Conference – Newark, DE

September 15-16 VASSAR Semi-Annual Meeting Charlottesville, VA

Details of the above VASSAR events as well as other events may be found at: <http://www.virginia-sar.org/vassar/events.htm>

Member Bios

You all should have received a request from our Genealogist/Registrar to submit a one page biographical summary of yourself and your Patriot for insertion into a file on current members. Please submit them as soon as possible to:

Ron Losee
3021 Pine Hollow Path
Williamsburg, VA 23185-1400
Valosee@aol.com

2012 Chapter Officers

The Historian's Corner

The month of May selection "From the Historian's Bookshelf" is a book that was highly recommended reading for a course I took with the Christopher Wren Association this Spring on the subject of "Life Passages for Colonial Virginians: Birth, Marriage, and Death". The book is entitled *The Jeffersons at Shadwell* by Susan Kern, Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 2010.

Merging archaeology, material culture, and social history, historian Susan Kern reveals the fascinating story of Shadwell, the birthplace of Thomas Jefferson and home to his parents, Jane and Peter Jefferson, their eight children, and more than sixty slaves. Located in present day Albemarle County, Virginia, Shadwell was at the time considered "the frontier". Kern demonstrates that Shadwell was no crude log cabin; it was in fact, a well-appointed gentry house full of fashionable goods, located at the center of a substantial plantation.

Kern's scholarship offers new views of the family's role in settling Virginia as well as new perspectives on Thomas Jefferson himself. The story of Shadwell affects how we interpret much of what we know about Thomas Jefferson today.

A good read!

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